

## Top 10 Hunter Education Questions

- 1. After what birth date is a person required to take hunter education?** A person born after Jan. 1, 1967, who has not taken a hunter education course must do so before purchasing an Iowa hunting license. Section 483A.27 of the Iowa Code.
- 2. Where and when is the next hunter education class?** An annual list of upcoming hunter education classes is maintained on the DNR's website at [www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com). Courses are listed by county and give general dates and contact information. Courses may also be listed in local newspapers and on posters in sporting goods stores.
- 3. Why don't they have more classes available?** Hunter education classes are taught by volunteer instructors who have been trained and supplied with materials by the Iowa DNR. These volunteers offer classes that meet the local demand throughout the year. However, volunteers they prefer to be out pursuing game during the hunting seasons. Therefore, most classes are offered prior to the middle of October.
- 4. Are former or active duty military personnel exempt from the hunter education requirement?** A license to hunt is not required of a person who is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States, on authorized leave from a duty station located outside of this state, and a resident of the state of Iowa. Personnel must carry leave papers and current earnings statement showing deduction for Iowa income tax. Since a license is not required of them, hunter education is not either. Nonresident active duty and non-active duty military born after Jan. 1, 1967 are required to have taken a certified hunter education as outlined above. Non-active duty people are required to have a hunting license and, therefore, required to take hunter education.
- 5. How old do you have to be to take a hunter education class?** A person who is 11 years old or older can enroll in an approved hunter education course, but a person who is 11 years old and has successfully completed the course shall be issued a certificate of completion, which becomes valid on the person's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday. This allows a person who is 11 to complete the course in time to participate in the special resident youth seasons when they become 12.

- 6. How can a person get a replacement hunter education card?** A duplicate certificate can be obtained through the Electronic Licensing System for Iowa (ELSI) for \$3.50, as long as the system reflects proof of hunter education certification. An ELSI agent must call the Des Moines DNR office to verify that the person appears in the Hunter Education System. This must be done during regular business hours. Keep in mind that the only time you should need the card is the first time you purchase a license or if you plan to hunt out-of-state. If the "Hunter Education" blank on your license does not show a "Yes" response and you have, in fact, taken Hunter Education in the past, you need to call the Des Moines office at 1-515-281-5918 and have that verified and entered into the ELSI system.
- 7. Will they accept certificates from another state?** Iowa accepts state DNR issued hunter education certificates from any state in North America as well as many foreign countries.
- 8. Under what conditions could a person hunt without having taken hunter education?**
- a) a resident under the age of 16 when accompanied by a licensed parent or guardian or with any competent licensed adult with the consent of the minor's parent or guardian,
  - b) a resident on property that they own or rent. A child of a landowner or tenant may hunt without a small game license until they are 18 years of age,
  - c) military personnel who are Iowa residents and on active leave provided they carry their leave papers and earning statement with them showing deduction of Iowa income tax,
  - d) minor pupils of state institutions under the control of human services or residents of county care facilities.
- 9. Can a nonresident under 16 hunt without having taken hunter education?** No, all nonresidents born after Jan. 1, 1967 are required to show proof of successfully completing a hunter education course. Nonresidents under 18, who have a parent that is a resident of Iowa, may purchase a resident hunting license.
- 10. Where can I get more information about hunter education?** Information is available from an Iowa DNR Recreational Safety Officer or your local Conservation Officer. Phone numbers are listed in the Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Regulations available wherever you purchase DNR licenses. Or call the Iowa DNR at 515-281-5918.

